AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of Claims shall replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-40. (Cancelled)

41.   (Currently Amended) A dynamic AC prediction method comprising:

performing DC prediction, using a first circuit, for a first macroblock using DC coefficients associated with at least one macroblock adjacent to said first macroblock;

performing AC prediction, using a second circuit, for said first macroblock using AC coefficients associated with said at least one macroblock;

determining whether an overflow condition is to occur in a first data packet if said first macroblock is encoded in said first data packet;

if no overflow condition is to occur, supplying AC predict coefficients and DC predict coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in said first data packet;

if said overflow condition is to occur, supplying said AC coefficients and said DC predict coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in a second data packet; and

disabling AC prediction, responsive to said overflow condition, for encoding said first macroblock in said second data packet.

42.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41 further comprising:

enabling AC prediction for encoding a plurality of macroblocks in said

second data packet, wherein said plurality of macroblocks are distinct from said

first macroblock.

43.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41, wherein said

determining comprises determining whether said overflow condition is to occur in

said first data packet prior to performing further AC prediction for said first

macroblock.

44.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41 further comprising:

        if said overflow condition is to occur, performing a second DC prediction

for said first macroblock; and

        suspending further AC prediction for said first macroblock.

45.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41, wherein said performing

said DC prediction, said performing said AC prediction, said determining whether

an overflow condition is to occur are performed in a data partition mode.

46.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41 further comprising:

        if no overflow condition is to occur, determining a predict direction

associated with said DC prediction and said AC prediction;

        if said predict direction is determined to be horizontal, generating a signal

for performing an alternate-horizontal scan; and

if said predict direction is determined to be vertical, generating a signal for performing an alternate-vertical scan.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41 further comprising:

if said overflow condition is to occur, generating a signal for performing a zig-zag scan.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41, wherein said DC coefficients and said AC coefficients comprise a transform coefficient data set, and wherein said transform coefficient data set is generated using a discrete cosine transform.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 41 further comprising:

before determining whether said overflow condition is to occur, determining a macroblock type of said first macroblock;

if said first macroblock comprises an inter block, supplying said AC coefficients and said DC coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in said first data packet;

if said first macroblock comprises an intra block, determining an AC prediction mode status associated with said AC prediction;

if said AC prediction is disabled, supplying said AC coefficients and said DC predict coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in said first data packet; and

if said AC prediction is enabled, supplying said AC predict coefficients and said DC predict coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in said first data packet.

50.   (Currently Amended) A dynamic AC prediction method comprising:

performing DC prediction, using a first circuit, for a first macroblock using DC coefficients associated with at least one macroblock adjacent to said first macroblock;

performing AC prediction, using a second circuit, for said first macroblock using AC coefficients associated with said at least one macroblock;

determining whether an overflow condition is to occur in a first data packet if said first macroblock is encoded in said first data packet;

if no overflow condition is to occur, encoding said first macroblock in said first data packet with AC prediction; and

if said overflow condition is to occur, disabling AC prediction <u>responsive to said overflow condition</u> and encoding said first macroblock in a second data packet without AC prediction.

51.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 50 further comprising:

enabling AC prediction and encoding a plurality of macroblocks in said second data packet with AC prediction, wherein said plurality of macroblocks are distinct from said first macroblock.

52.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 50 further comprising:

performing DC prediction for said first macroblock using DC coefficients associated with said at least one macroblock.

53.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 52 further comprising:

before determining whether said overflow condition is to occur, determining a macroblock type of said first macroblock;

if said first macroblock comprises an inter block, supplying said AC coefficients and said DC coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in said first data packet;

if said first macroblock comprises an intra block, determining an AC prediction mode status associated with said AC prediction;

if said AC prediction is disabled, supplying said AC coefficients and DC predict coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in said first data packet; and

if said AC prediction is enabled, supplying AC predict coefficients and said DC predict coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in said first data packet.

54.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 50 further comprising:

if no overflow condition is to occur, supplying AC predict coefficients and DC predict coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in said first data packet; and

if said overflow condition is to occur, supplying said AC coefficients and said DC predict coefficients for encoding said first macroblock in said second data packet.

55.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein said determining comprises determining whether said overflow condition is to occur in said first data packet prior to performing further AC prediction for said first macroblock.

56.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 50 further comprising:

if said overflow condition is to occur, performing a second DC prediction for said first macroblock.

57.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein said performing said AC prediction and said determining whether an overflow condition is to occur are performed in a data partition mode.

58.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 50 further comprising:

if no overflow condition is to occur, determining a predict direction associated with said AC prediction;

if said predict direction is determined to be horizontal, generating a signal for performing an alternate-horizontal scan; and

if said predict direction is determined to be vertical, generating a signal for performing an alternate-vertical scan.

59.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 50 further comprising:

if said overflow condition is to occur, generating a signal for performing a zig-zag scan.

60.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 50, wherein said AC coefficients comprise a transform coefficient data set, and wherein said transform coefficient data set is generated using a discrete cosine transform.